



**NEWSLETTER**  
**OF THE**  
**Estancia United Methodist**  
**Church**  
600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico  
<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



**SEPTEMBER, 2014**

Pastor: Rev. Bonnie Hardesty  
600 Williams, P. O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016  
Church Office 384-5215 Parsonage 384-2710  
Pastor Bonnie: 505-271-0486  
email: [bjharde1@msn.com](mailto:bjharde1@msn.com)

Your Church Staff

Chairperson of Church Council	Melanie Chavez
Recording Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Organist	Morrow Hall
Lay Member of the Annual Conference	Elaine Darnell
Lay Leader	Elaine Darnell
Chairperson: Board of Trustees	Bill Simms
Worship Team Leader	Julie Griffo
Education	Julie Griffo & Melanie Chavez
Care and Outreach Team Leader	Barbara Simms
Chairperson: Pastor Parish Relations	Nick Griffo
Food Pantry	Butch McGee
Financial Secretary	Vickie Coburn
Church Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
President UMM	Nick Griffo
McMurry Rep	Julie Griffo
Sacramento Camp Rep	Melanie Chavez

Bishop: Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe  
District Superintendent: Rev. James E. Large  
Visit our website at:

<http://www.estanciamethodist.org>



**Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**

From the Desk of...

*Pastor Bonnie*

**A little girl walked to and from school every day. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with lightning.**

**The child's mother became concerned. Her daughter might be frightened as she walked home from school; or worse, she could be harmed. The mother got into her car and began driving along the route to her child's school. Soon, she saw her little girl walking along.**

**At each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up, and smile. More lightning followed quickly. Each time, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.**

**When the mother drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called, "What are you doing?"**

**The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture."**



In our reading of the Revelation this summer we encountered several times Jesus' assertion that our deeds follow us up to heaven. Even if we are marked for salvation - even if we profess faith in Christ - even if we know that we cannot possibly 'earn' or 'work' our way into heaven... we are assured that there WILL BE a review of our earthly deeds on that day of judgment!

God does, in a way, take pictures of us, recording who we are and what we've done with the time we've been given here on earth. What are God's pictures going to reveal about you on that great day? Are your actions going to make you look pretty in God's eyes?

I once received a note from a friend that said, "If God has a refrigerator, your picture is on it!" I hope He caught me doing something GOOD in that picture! And I pray He catches YOU doing GOOD in this world, too!

Smile, God loves you!

*-Pastor Bonnie*



**Wanda Giovengo** serves up yummy pulled pork sandwiches for Mountainair Public School staff on August 5.

Over 50 Mountainair Public School staff and support personnel enjoyed food and fellowship at the Back-to-School Luncheon, August 5, hosted by Mountainair UMC.



**Sydney, Jesse, and Justice Chavez** helped **Grandma Elaine** distribute Pencil Bouquets and Homemade Cookies at Estancia Public Schools on August 18.



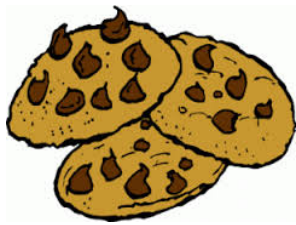




**Marquee Sturges,**  
Estancia school bus aide,  
is one happy recipient of  
Back-to-School Blessings.

### **EUMC Appreciates and Shows Support for the Estancia Schools Staff**

On Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> lots of very special deliveries were made all over the Estancia School campus to show our support and appreciation for all they do for our community. On behalf of Estancia United Methodist Church, members of our Administrative Council baked more than 36 dozen cookies to share with the school staff. In addition, we had ordered pencils engraved with “Be Kind to Others” to share with classroom teachers because we know that they provide pencils to students throughout the year. Sixty pencil bouquets of 2-dozen pencils each were assembled and tied with a ribbon and lovely card expressing our support. Elaine Darnell was the lucky person who got to deliver the goodies and she drafted Jesse, Sydney, and Justice Chavez



to help. They delivered cookie trays to each building throughout the school district. Then they went to the Upper Elementary Library where all teachers were involved in a special training. Just before they broke for lunch, Elaine introduced Pastor Bonnie to them. Then she announced that our church is always thinking of them and praying for them and we had a thank you gift to kick off a great new school year. Jesse, Justice, and Sydney did a great job of distributing pencil bouquets and baggies of cookies while Bonnie and Elaine thanked each teacher

personally. The teachers were very appreciative of our gifts, our support and our continuing prayers for them. Elaine got lots of hugs from her former colleagues – such a great day!

*-Elaine Darnell*

### **Like Organ Music? Here's a Treat for You...**

#### **The Albuquerque Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**

is hosting its open season for organists with an Organ Crawl on Sept 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at First UMC Albuquerque (4<sup>th</sup> & Coal.) The group will have a luncheon and visit other churches and organists in Albuquerque.



Go to AGO's website (<http://agoabq.org/events-2/>)  
or call Gloria Robinson at (505) 771-0540 for more information.

# Mark Your Calendars!

Time to get back in the swing of things !  
See What's New at Estancia UMC:



## Family Night – Wednesdays, 5-7pm **Beginning September 3, we'll have**

- **Potluck Supper** (Pastor Bonnie is bringing a main dish 9/3. Please contribute a side to round out a Mexican food theme.)
- **Adult Bible Study**
  - › Meet in Fellowship Hall
  - › Lessons based on 'The Story'
  - › Participants' books cost \$5 each, cost-offsetting contributions are welcomed!
- **Youth Fellowship**
  - › an Outdoor Activity
  - › a Minute-to-Win-It
  - › a Bible Lesson
  - › Singing & Playing (chimes in the sanctuary)
  - › Catacomb Worship (in the church basement!)
- **Children's Program**
  - › Singing & Playing
  - › Games
  - › a Bible Lesson

## **Also Coming Up...**

**9/14 Sunday – Ad Council Meetings for both Mountainair and Estancia will be held at Mountainair to facilitate joint conversation about the Healthy Church Initiative and preparation for Charge Conference (Nov. 16.)**

- Noon - Mountainair will start with lunch and Ad Council immediately following.
- 2pm - Estancia Ad Council will join the conversation
- Mountainair will adjourn after HCI & Charge Conf discussion
- Estancia will continue with their Ad Council meeting as needed.

**10/6 – 10/8 Monday thru Wednesday – Pastor Bonnie attends Clergy Retreat at SMA.**

**10/19 Sunday – Laity Sunday – Elaine Darnell at Estancia UMC and Someone @ Mountainair UMC will get to preach!**

**Sunday's in October - Prep for Charge Conference to be held at Estancia UMC, November 16. If you**

serve on ANY church committee, now's the time to contact your Chairperson & get your pencils sharpened for reporting!

### **Friday, October 31 – Trunk or Treat – Got your costume picked out yet?**

Please contact Pastor Bonnie (505-271-0486) if can help with...

- ★ Trunks & Treats (vehicles)
- ★ Advertising
- ★ Cake Walk
- ★ Hot Dogs & S'mores
- ★ Set up / Decorations
- ★ Games
- ★ Clean Up

### **Sunday, Nov. 2 – All Saint's Service of Remembrance**

If you've experienced a death of friends or family members this past year, please contact Pastor Bonnie (505-271-0486) for details.

### **Sunday, Nov. 16 – Charge Conference @ 4:30pm in Estancia.**

### **Spiritual / Educational Retreats... is God calling you?**

#### **Emmaus Walks:**

10/9 – 10/12 Thursday thru Sunday: Women's Walk, Hesperus, CO (Rustic)

10/30 – 11/2 Thursday thru Sunday: Men's Walk, Madonna Center in ABQ  
(Handicapped Accessible)

11/13 – 11/16 Thursday thru Sunday: Women's Walk, Madonna Center in ABQ  
(Handicapped Accessible)

#### **Lay Servants' School:**

11/7 – 11/8 Friday evening thru Saturday: First UMC ABQ; Hotel Hardesty is available for layovers in Albuquerque!



Robert Chavez takes over the King's Kids Presentation, last Sunday, Aug 24.

## **History brought to life in Mountainair**

All of us have a past, and a history of people we are related to. We can get to know some of the clubs, churches and organizations they belonged to, as well, if we look.

This past July, some of us went on a journey. We traveled to the United Methodist Church in Mountainair where we were met by Kent Porter whom I had contacted and arranged the tour. He was joined by Ruth Ivey, Nancy Karlsberger and Pastor Bonnie Hardesty. Also joining them was local historian, Dorothy Cole who came with stories and pictures. Kent started the presentation by giving us a history of the church. It was quite a surprise to find out that for the first 6 years after it was built, in 1909, the church was a community church. Six years later, in 1915, it was purchased by the Methodist Church. The church has a long history of being active in the community no matter how big or small the membership.

Dorothy shared with us the history of Mountainair. She brought copies of a musical she wrote, called "Diamonds in the Field." The poems and stories are excellent and interesting as are the photos. Throughout the day, I thought of our own historian, Mrs. Ethel Floyd.

Toward the end of our time there, we were told about the church windows. They were purchased in memory of past friends and members. We shared our own knowledge of history and the ministry of our churches. Some departed and toured parts of the town and galleries, while others shared in a wonderful lunch at The Shaffer Hotel Dining Room. We also visited to the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument Headquarters.

Our next outing will be to a church in Stanley or Edgewood on Tuesday, Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be in Moriarty. Please bring your kids or grandkids with you. We'll bring activity bags with us. We will leave from our church Parking lot at 9:15 am. Please let me know if you are interested in going on this adventure. Terry Ann at 384.2616.

## **Bethel needs your help!**

Many of you have shopped at Bethel Community Storehouse's thrift store. You can go through the aisles and look at items for sale there. These items are first donated by generous people in the community. Volunteers then check them over to make sure they meet standards; they are then priced and put on display. If they do not meet our standards, they are still used by being purchased by other groups who refurbish and recycle them. At this time, we do not have enough volunteers to get the daily donated items to the shelves. All the proceeds from the sales at the thrift store go to purchase food for our food program.

Please consider giving your time to help. Please call Bethel at 832-6642 and ask for Gina. Training for Volunteers is a one morning event on Thursdays at 10 a.m.

We are still trying to deal with the loss of a significant grant. We would like to hire a videographer to make a public announcement video for Bethel; however we need to raise the money first. If you would like to donate to this cause, please write in the memo area of your check "for videographer."

Bethel is here to serve the communities surrounding it. We serve at least 5 counties! Please come and volunteer or shop at our Farmer's Market on Friday afternoon. We are going to, randomly, give out Bethel discount cards that we hope you will come and use.

*-Terry Ann*

## **Stewardship by Carolyn Moore**

**“Shared ministries and goals.”** This is our part of the total Conference Expenses and Missions. Each church is asked to contribute. Some of these funds are salaries for the Bishop, District Superintendents and Conference Administration along with Campus Ministers and many depend upon this money. Some are large amounts and some are small amounts.

I would like for us to look at the list. If there is one that you would like to make as your mission, please let Vicky Coburn know of your choice. This is another way we can serve God in our church. This list can be found on page 2 of the 2013 Charge Conference booklet.

-Carolyn

## **Communion on the Moon: July 20th, 1969**

Forty years ago today two human beings changed history by walking on the surface of the moon. But what happened before Buzz Aldrin (pictured in the LM, left) and Neil Armstrong exited the Lunar Module is perhaps even more amazing, if only because so few people know about it.

I'm talking about the fact that Buzz Aldrin took communion on the surface of the moon. Some months after his return, he wrote about it in Guideposts magazine. And a few years ago I had the privilege of meeting him myself. I asked him about it and he confirmed the story to me, and I wrote about it in my book *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About God (But Were Afraid to Ask)*.



The background to the story is that Aldrin was an elder at his Presbyterian Church in Texas during this period in his life, and knowing that he would soon be doing something unprecedented in human history, he felt he should mark the occasion somehow, and he asked his pastor to help him. And so the pastor consecrated a communion wafer and a small vial of communion wine. And Buzz Aldrin took them with him out of the Earth's orbit and on to the surface of the moon.

He and Armstrong had only been on the lunar surface for a few minutes when Aldrin made the following public statement: "This is the LM pilot. I'd like to take this opportunity to ask every person listening in, wherever and wherever they may be, to pause for a moment and contemplate the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in his or her own way." He then ended radio communication and there, on the silent surface of the moon, 250,000 miles from home, he read a verse from the Gospel of John, and he took communion. Here is his own account of what happened:

"In the radio blackout, I opened the little plastic packages which contained the bread and the wine. I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon, the wine slowly curled and gracefully came up the side of the cup. Then I read the Scripture, 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Whosoever abides in me will bring forth much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing.'

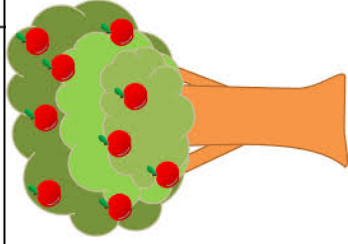
I had intended to read my communion passage back to earth, but at the last minute [they] had requested that I not do this. NASA was already embroiled in a legal battle with Madelyn Murray O'Hare [sic], the celebrated opponent of religion, over the Apollo 8 crew reading from Genesis while orbiting the moon at Christmas. I agreed reluctantly. I ate the tiny Host and swallowed the wine. I gave thanks for the intelligence and spirit that had brought two young pilots to the Sea of Tranquility. It was interesting for me to think: the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the very first food eaten there, were the communion elements."

And of course, it's interesting to think that some of the first words spoken on the moon were the words of Jesus Christ, who made the Earth and the moon — and Who, in the immortal words of Dante, is Himself the "Love that moves the Sun and other stars."



# September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 5:00 - 7:00 pm Family Night POTLUCK SUPPER	4	5	6
7 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	8	9	10 5:00 - 7:00 pm Family Night	11	12	13
14 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair 2: PM AD COUNCIL Mountainair	15	16	17 4:30 PM TRUSTEES 5:00 - 7:00 pm Family Night	18	19	20 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
21 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	22	23	24 5:00 - 7:00 pm Family Night	25	26	27
28 9 AM Worship 11 AM -Mtair	29	30				



September

Fall Into  
AUTUMN



Estancia United Methodist Church  
P. O. Box 126  
Estancia, NM 87016

*Sent with a prayer to:*

